

MCC procedure for commenting on planning applications (including making submissions on planning cases before DMSC and DPEA)

MCC nominates an elected or co-opted member to monitor planning applications within or affecting the MCC area, for example by reviewing the weekly Planning Lists and occasional email alerts from the public. The nominee normally takes responsibility for drafting notes of objection or other submissions, though this responsibility can be delegated to any other MCC member in particular cases.

MCC does not, as a rule, make formal objection to applications for “householder” developments. Exceptionally, where broader issues arise, for example damage to the essential character of a Conservation Area or to the natural or built heritage of Murrayfield, whether or not protected by Conservation Area or Listed Building status, objection can be considered.

Because of the usually tight deadlines for submissions, it is seldom possible to discuss detailed drafts in regular MCC meetings. Instead, the nominee or delegate circulates by email a draft (labelled as such) for review by all MCC members, inviting and setting a date for receipt of comments and suggested changes. Reviewers who do not respond by the date set by the nominee or delegate are presumed to approve the draft as written.

If responses received indicate no consensus within MCC for objecting to a particular application, no further action is taken. Otherwise, if any suggested changes are substantive and if time permits, a revised draft is recirculated for approval. If only minor changes in wording or no changes are suggested, the nominee or delegate puts the draft in final form and submits it, on behalf of MCC, by the published deadline.

At the next MCC meeting, the nominee or delegate reports any submission made, so that it is duly minuted.

Approved and adopted at MCC Ordinary meeting on 24 January 2023